

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable consideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 3-13 are presently active in this case, with Claims 1 and 2 cancelled by the present preliminary amendment.

Claims 3-13 correspond to claims previously non-elected in response to the Election of Species requirement issued on July 3, 2003 in parent application Serial No. 10/201,921.

Accordingly, examination on the merits of Claims 3-13 is believed to be in order, and an early and favorable action on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Eckhard H. Kuesters
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 28,870
Michael E. Monaco
Registration No. 52,041

Customer Number
22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413-2220
(OSMMN 08/03)

I:\ATTY\MM\AMENDMENT\2524\251076.PRELIM..DOC